



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

## NOTICES OF NEW BOOKS.

An Essay on the Life, Character, and writings of John B. Gibson, LL. D., lately Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. By William A. Porter. Philadelphia : T. & J. W. Johnson.

We have read with much interest this appreciative sketch of the intellectual and moral character of one, whose talents and virtues so long illustrated and adorned the jurisprudence of Pennsylvania. The rich legacy which Judge Gibson bequeathed to the profession in the fruits of so many years of judicial labor, imperatively demanded a more than passing acknowledgment. It is true, that on the very spot which had been the theatre of his triumphs when living, in the Supreme Court itself, there was pronounced a tribute to him, when dead, which, if paid to any less great than he, might have obscured its subject by its own intrinsic splendor. But that eulogy was necessarily brief and general. Much remained to be said, and to have been the first to attempt to supply the deficiency, is of itself no slight praise to the author of this memoir. But he is fairly entitled to the greater praise of having succeeded in the attempt. He has delineated the great mind and heart of Chief Justice Gibson, in colors which a calm sobriety of judgment has prevented from being too glaring. The contemplation of the merits of his subject has not blinded him to its defects, and he has produced a picture whose chastened tone bears the impress of fidelity.

It is not, however, only as an offering to departed worth that we commend Mr. Porter's essay to the attention of our readers. To the professional reader certainly, the history of the life of such a man as John B. Gibson must be at once instructive and interesting. He must feel a natural curiosity to know something of the education, associations, tastes, habits and peculiarities, something of the private life of one whose public life the jurisprudence of our State commemorates more eloquently than the most glowing eulogy, which the warmest admiration for his great qualities could inspire. Such curiosity Mr. Porter has done much to gratify, since he has succinctly traced the manner of life of the Chief Justice, from his athletic and vigorous youth, through his lofty and self reliant manhood and his venerable age, to the time when the solemn messenger came to summon him from the judgment seat to be himself judged.

The style is easy and perspicuous, the reflections interspersed just and apposite, and if the time devoted to the preparation of this memoir left the author a gainer, as he himself assures us, we have great confidence that the time devoted to its perusal will produce a similar result for the reader.

G.